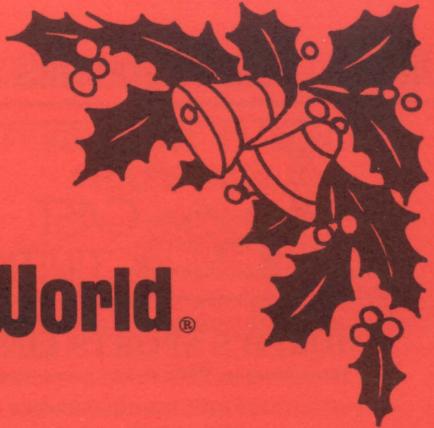


eyes
and
ears of

Walt Disney World®



VOL. 5, NO. 51

PREPARED BY AND FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF WALT DISNEY WORLD

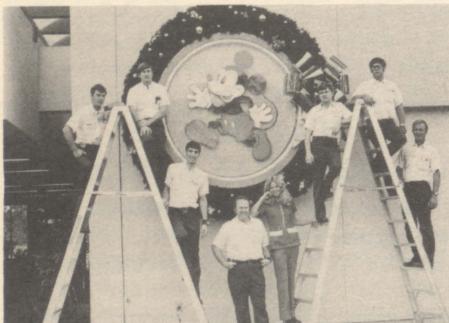
DECEMBER 19, 1975

Holiday Season Gets Into Full Swing Here

Our fast-closing holiday season will be featuring some special events, such as extended hours, nightly fireworks and special musical entertainment throughout the Magic Kingdom.

Beginning December 22, the Park will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. However, there are some exceptions ... like Christmas Eve when the Magic Kingdom will close at 6 p.m. and Christmas Day when it will close at 10 p.m. The extended hours will continue through Friday, January 2, with "America On Parade" performances at 2 p.m. everyday and ad-

(continued on page 4)



Christmas time is one part of the year that Walt Disney World goes all out to celebrate. And along with the special shows and events comes special decorations. We caught one crew at work inside The Center bringing the holiday spirit to our backstage employee areas as well as onstage guest areas. Pictured above are (l-r) Greg Koss, Mike Head, Dave Teschke, Dave Minichiello, Sandy Funk, James Funk, Jim McCullough and Wayne Dinkins. They along with three others not pictured . . . Ed Hutsenpiller, Don Adams and Shane Pendley . . . have put up almost all of the backstage decorations throughout Walt Disney World. Other crews from the Decorating Department did the work in the Magic Kingdom and our resorts.

U. S. GOVERNMENT SATELLITE HELPS CONTROL REEDY CREEK WATER FLOW

A United States weather satellite in stationary Earth orbit 23,000 miles above the equator is now being used to monitor and control the action of surface water in and around Walt Disney World.

Our recently-installed prototype space-age technology system is a joint effort by the Department of Interior's U. S. Geological Survey and our own Reedy Creek Improvement District.

Involved in this project is a series of electronic sensors that are lowered into

(continued on page 4)



HOLIDAY PAGEANT AT THE VILLAGE

"The Glory and Pageantry of Christmas," a living tradition in the form of a live Nativity interspersed with choral music, is being presented nightly at 8 pm at the Lake Buena Vista Village during the holiday season December 13 through December 23.

Thirty-three persons will participate in the holiday pageant, each dressed in authentic 13th-Century costumes of rich brocades, satins, silks, velvets, lamb's wool, rough homespun and monk's cloth. Designs for the pageant were styled from a painting of St. Francis of Assisi in 1223 A.D.

(continued on page 4)

HOLIDAY ADMISSION POLICY RESTATED

With our Candlelight Processional and New Year's Eve Party in the Magic Kingdom approaching, there have been numerous requests concerning the policies for complimentary tickets and Main Gate Passes for admittance into the Magic Kingdom on those two nights. The policies are:

- **Candlelight Processional:** Main Gate Passes and complimentary tickets may be used for admission to the Magic Kingdom on these two nights, December 20 & 21.
- **New Year's Eve Party:** No Main Gate Passes or complimentary tickets may be used for admission to the Magic Kingdom at any time on December 31.

DON'T FORGET OUR IMPORTANT MINI BLOOD BANK DRIVE NEXT WEEK. THE MOBILE TRAILER WILL BE AT "THE CENTER" MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, FROM 8 AM TO 5 PM AND TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, FROM 10 AM TO 7 PM. PLEASE CALL EXT. 4736 FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

TIUTIES ...CAST ACTIVITIES...SPORTS ...DISCOUNTS...CAST ACTIVITIES ...SPORTS ...DISCOUNTS.



MURPH'S SPORTS LINE

by: Thom Murphy, EYES & EARS area reporter

Our annual Cast Christmas Dance takes place in the **Grand Ballroom of the Americas** this Friday evening, December 19, from **9pm till 2 am**, with continuous dancing music. The bands will be the 16-piece **Walt Disney World Show Band** the **Gettins Brothers Band**. There will be plenty of door prizes for everyone with a **Grand Prize** valued at **\$900!!!** Corsages will be there for all of the ladies, as well as beverages at reduced prices and hot and cold refreshments. Tickets are now on sale at **Cash Control** and **Cast Activities**. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$4 per person. Hope to see you there!

Have you thought about joining a club in the coming new year? You'll meet plenty of new people and have some great times. To go about it, just take one of the clubs below which interest you and get in touch with the member listed for more information about meeting, activities and all the rest.

- Dive Club (SCUBA) - Denise Becher - 299-5868
- Golf Association - Herman Braun - 894-4234 or 824-2200
- Sportsman Association - Chuck Hickman - 859-2439
- Christian Fellowship - Robin Schultz - 855-0161
- Karate Club - Charlie Hardiman - 851-2743
- Ham Radio Club - Jack Conklin - 831-7995
- Chess Club - Ralph Kent - 299-4201
- Snow Ski Club - Dent Thompson - 273-7193
- Water Ski Club - Bob Pfaff - 422-0523
- Theatre Workshop - Jon Carissimi - 293-739

Aero Club - Tom Vendur - 425-6354
Here's the latest news on basketball . . . due to the installation of the new floor at the Pine Hills Boys Club Gym (which looks great!), the eight games which have been missed will be played after the beginning of the new year. Schedules for all teams have been mailed to your team captain, but there are more of the schedule available in Cast Activities for anyone who's interested. Just drop by or call extension 4254.

ANOTHER GOLF TOURNEY

It seems that there was another Golf Tournament recently, when our own **Admissions** and **Cash Control** tourneyed against each other Sunday, November 30

at the Buena Vista Golf Club. It was close competition to the finish, but Cash Control came out on top. Some of the comments reported included . . . "Hey Bob, where's the rest of your club?" . . . "but the green is over there" . . . "I'm wearing out my sand wedge!" . . . "Where's Chip and de beer?" . . . "if only golf balls would float!" Many thanks go out to **Dick Fox** and **Gary Hornbuckle** for setting up the tournament.

THEATRE WORKSHOP MEETING

There will be an important business meeting of the **Theatre Workshop** Thursday night, December 18, to discuss upcoming shows for the remainder of the current season. The meeting will be at 8 pm in Cast Activities. Several committees will be formed to start a workshop schedule and planning the annual banquet. All active Theatre Workshop members and interested employees are invited to attend.

MORE DISCOUNT THEATER TICKETS

There are more of the popular discount theater tickets available at Cast Activities. Along with tickets to the **Plaza I & II Theaters**, they now have discount tickets for the **Northgate IV, Orange Blossom Center and Conway Theaters**. Drop by Cast Activities and get yours today!

ADVANCED SCUBA COURSE TO BE OFFERED

An **Advanced S.C.U.B.A. course** will be offered by the **Dive Club** starting this January. This N.A.U.I. Advanced Certification course will start January 10th and last till March 10th. The instructor will be **Wayne Mitchell**.

The cost of the course will be \$35, which will include: Textbooks, workbooks, use of SCUBA gear (except wet suits), certificates and patches.

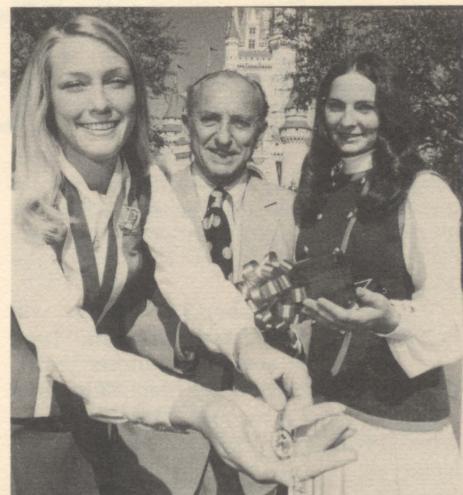
The course will include:

- Wet and dry sessions each Saturday
- 2 sessions on advanced SCUBA skills in pool
- 1 session on wreck diving
- 1 session on underwater search and recovery
- 1 session on offshore diving
- 1 session on cave diving
 - 1 session on night diving
- 1 session on decompression and deep diving (limit 100 feet)
- 1 session on underwater photography
- 1 session on limited visibility, underwater navigation
- 1 session on underwater rescue and baratraumatic first aid
- 1 session on special project dive and graduation

For more information and applications, call Cast Activities at extension 4254 or drop by their offices. There are prerequisites for the course of minimum 25 hours open water bottom time and Basic SCUBA certification card.

SNOW SKI TRIP ONLY MONTH AWAY

The Snow Ski Club reports that their first trip up to "ski country" is only a month away . . . leaving here Friday, January 23. Next week's **EYES & EARS** will carry the trip details and sign-up dates. Watch for them and . . . **THINK SHOW!**



Ambassadors receive Mickey Mouse watches. Christina Schendel, (l) Disneyland Ambassador, and Mary Ann Carter, recently were presented gold Mickey Mouse prestige watches. Jac Mooney, President of Elgin-Bradley, is shown here with the two Ambassadors. He helped arrange the presentation.

PAYCHECKS ONE-DAY EARLY

Due to the forth coming holiday period, the regular weekly paychecks will be distributed on **Wednesday, December 24**, instead of Thursday, December 25. This procedure will again be repeated on **Wednesday, December 31**, instead of Thursday, January 1.

The **Payroll Office** will be closed on Christmas Day and on New Year's Day.

SPACE-AGE TELEPHONE SYSTEM DEDICATION THIS FRIDAY

A space-age long distance telephone system . . . the **first** of its kind in the continental United States . . . will be dedicated this Friday, December 19, at the World Communications Building in the Administration Area.

The completely computerized equipment, installed at **Vista Florida Tele-**

phone System to serve the 9,000 instruments we have here will be declared operational following a brief ceremony involving Bell Canada, Florida Telephone Corporation, and representatives from Walt Disney World.

Heading the list of dignitaries at the dedication will be **Robert C. Scrivener**, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Bell Canada, and **Donn Tatum**.

EMPLOYEE SALE REMINDER

Please keep in mind that our Employee Sales are limited to **employees only** and their **spouse or dependent children**. No other relatives or friends will be admitted during a sale. If you have any questions, please get in touch with **Property Control**.

CREDIT UNION HOURS

The Vista Federal Credit Union will be open **Wednesday, December 24**, from **8 am to 1 pm** for Christmas Eve convenience for credit union members. **Merry Christmas to all!**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In last week's **EYES & EARS**, we printed an article concerning how many mouse characters Walt Disney Productions has created over the years since Mickey Mouse. And in the article we mentioned that Mickey was 52 years old. Well, we stand corrected. Mickey Mouse is but 47 years old . . . Walt Disney Productions is 52 years old. Along with numerous telephone calls from cast members to remind us, we received the following letter . . . signed Mickey Mouse. The real Mickey? Who knows . . .

My Dear Mr. Editor:

As one approaches the golden years in his life, he has occasion to reflect on the many achievements and rewards that have burst upon his horizon like so many fireworks at a 4th of July celebration. Like Sandburg's frog creeping into the city, a certain sadness dims these fond memories with the knowledge that as our age increases, our allotted time on this sphere diminishes. Therefore, while I am proud of my 47 years on this planet, I request that you henceforth refrain from adding years to this glorious record.

*Sincerely,
M. Mouse*

Along with the letter, we received the names of some additional mouse characters not included in last week's article. They are:

- Mortimer Mouse - Mickey's rival in the comics
- Amos - Appeared in "Ben & Me"
- Suzy, Pearl, Blossom, Luke, Mert and Bert who appeared in "Cinderella"

- Captain Churchmouse - Appeared in comics
- Millicent Van Gilt - Appeared in comics



*Bill Burns, Area Supervisor for the parking areas, recently had an addition to his family . . . and he may have an addition to his staff. It seems that Betty Downs and Lili Martinez, both hostesses in the parking lot, made Bill's daughter, Emily, a parking lot trammy costume which is an exact double for the real thing! Bill brought Emily in to show off her new duds and **EYES & EARS** caught Emily on her break . . . on Bill's desk.*

KEEP ON CUTTIN'

Have you ever wondered how the name gets cut into your name tag? Who does the thousands that we have here? Well, the answer is **Velma Kershaw** in the Key Control Office.

Velma, who has been a cast member for two and a half years, operates a machine which engraves the name tags. **EYES & EARS** two-weeks ago carried a story that all employees will soon be receiving a new "Bicentennial name tag" to celebrate our nation's birthday. Well, Velma could have told you about the new tags months ago . . . because she has been engraving 12,000 to 13,000 of them.

Watch **EYES & EARS** for details of when the new tags will be distributed.



FERRYBOAT TAKING SHAPE HERE

Our third ferryboat to transport guests from the TTC over to the Magic Kingdom is well underway behind the Shops Building in the North Service Area, with the first of June as a proposed date to launch her.

The as yet un-named vessel has a steel hull and aluminum super-structure, a dance floor on the second deck, will be diesel powered, with a hull 120 feet long by 35 feet wide. Actual construction on the massive boat began in mid-October and will continue through the winter and spring months.

The construction site is behind the Shops Building near the drydock area. Pictured above, one of the steel hull sections is lifted into place where it will be welded into the rest of the hull. **EYES & EARS** will be following the assembly of our newest ferryboat and will occasionally be bringing you reports on how it is going.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

There are still enrollment openings in the Valencia Community College courses which will be taught at the Disney University starting January 12, 1976. The two courses are **BA 175 (202) Introduction to Business** (Thursdays) and **BA 252 (202) Principles of Accounting II** (Wednesdays). Both courses carry three credits with tuition cost of \$36 for Florida residents. Both will be held at the Disney University from 6 pm till 8:45 pm on their respective days.

The Disney University will also be sponsoring **Basic Conversational Russian** as well as **Advanced Russian** at no cost to cast members this winter. The advanced group will begin January 12th practicing both oral and written Russian communications every Tuesday. The entry-level group will meet on Wednesdays with the course emphasis being on conversational Russian. Both sessions will last from 6:30 pm till 9 pm.

Conversational Spanish I have been added to the Orange County Adult Education classes being taught at the Disney University. The class will meet on Mondays from 6 pm till 9 pm, at a cost of \$5.

(continued on page 4)

(Holidays — continued from page 1)

ditional 9 p.m. performances on December 22, 23, 26 through 30 and January 1 and 2.

Christmas Toy Soldiers will star along with Continental Army soldiers and 150 other performers in our yuletide version of "America On Parade." Also featured in the Parade will be Santa Claus and his eight reindeer, dancing Christmas trees and marching snowmen.

Our "happiest season of the year" will premiere **December 20** and **21** with our inspiring **Candlelight Processional** at 7 p.m. More than 1,000 singers from Central Florida choral groups and our own Cast Choir will proceed down Main Street to Town Square where the massed chorus will present a half-hour of favorite Christmas music under the direction of **Dr. Charles Hirt** of the University of Southern California.

Motion picture star **Dean Jones** will be our special guest narrator for the traditional reading of the Christmas Story.

Another holiday highlight is "**Christmas Fantasy**," an extremely popular show of the "12 Days of Christmas" starring our own Disney characters. The show has a cast of over a hundred with plenty of live music, singing ... and even ice skating! Presented three times daily, this is one show you'll have to catch. It is performed in front of Cinderella Castle.

New Year's Eve will be filled with celebrations throughout all of Walt Disney World, including a massive midnight greeting of the new year in the Magic Kingdom with noisemakers, special fireworks and a 10,000 balloon release from the forecourt of Cinderella Castle. Top performers in the **Magic Kingdom New Year's Eve Party** this year will include **Bo Donaldson & the Heywoods, K.C. & the Sunshine Band** and country music stars **Bob Sanders** and **Marilyn Srollers**.

The **Top of the World** will have its own party with **Nancy Ames** leading the festivities as well as at the **Ballroom of the Americas**. The **Polynesian Village** and **Pioneer Hall** will also have special celebrations that evening.

Watch **Eyes & Ears** for more details on our New Year's Eve celebrations as the new year approaches.

(Satellite — continued from page 1)

the water to continuously measure the level and flow rate of Reedy Creek, a stream system that originates at the northern limits of our 27,400 acres of property and flows south to link up with the Kissimmee River chain.

Data collected by the sensors is automatically coded and beamed via radio telemetry to the GOES-3 environmental satellite at three-hour intervals. From the satellite, the information is bounced back to earth to Wallops Island, Virginia, for further transmission to the U.S. Geological Survey Computer Center at Reston, Virginia.

Our telemetry station, one of the first in the country, is the latest addition to a working relationship between the federal government and our Reedy Creek Improvement District that began in 1968.

"This advance in technology is in keeping with Walt Disney's concept of EPCOT," said **Fred Harden**, Manager of Environmental Protection for Reedy Creek Improvement District.

"The use of sensors, telemetry and satellites to measure and control the flow rate of the world's rivers is a technique of the future that could prevent loss of life and property. It is truly fitting that early testing be conducted at Walt Disney World," he added.

In addition to measuring level and flow rate of Reedy Creek, the solar battery-operated system will soon be geared also to monitor conductivity, temperature and pH parameters, according to **Arthur Putnam**, coordinator of the experimental program for the government.

Conductivity, he explained, concerns the mineral content of the water while the pH factor reflects acidity or alkalinity. All such data is essential to understanding the environmental effects of surface water inflow and outflow on the Floridan aquifer, he said.

The heart of the system is attached to a concrete bridge that crosses Reedy Creek near our main entrance. The telemetry package is anything but exotic. It is a two-foot-square metal box, that houses a recorder and transmitter and sits astride and 18-inch pipe that conceals the sensors extending in the water below. Mounted atop the box is a parabolic dish, a five-foot antenna and a solar plate to capture the sun's heat for recharging the unit's batteries.

(Village — continued from page 1)

Choirs from area schools will present a half-hour of holiday music under the Captain's Tower before the bearded Innkeeper, bedecked in gold raw silk wrapped with rust homespun, begins his narration of the traditional Christmas story.

As the story progresses with musical accompaniment, the original cast of biblical characters take their place and are later augmented by people of the day — butcher, baker, flower seller, candlemaker, weaver, vegetable and fruit

peddlers — each bearing authentic gifts of their profession . . . fresh bread, sweet-smelling roses, fruits . . . to pay homage to the new-born. All pageant participants enter the Tower from different directions working their way to the center in the same manner as these figures would have journeyed to the Nativity scene during the Medieval period.

Even the 19th-Century little drummer boy and guests viewing the creche from the sidelines will be participants of the adoration. Everyone is invited to view this Christmas-time pageant.

(Continuing Education — from page 3)

To register for any of these courses or get a list of other winter class offerings, drop by the **Disney University** on the 1st floor of The Center. Please pay your course tuition by personal check or money order. Course minimum enrollments will be observed. Should a class be cancelled due to lack of enrollment, tuition monies will be refunded. Call the Disney University at extension 4744 for more information on Continuing Education.

FOR SALE:

1962 Chevy II: 4-door automatic, \$280 or best offer. 425-8972

Puppies: Good markings, playful, going fast. Jack Bull at 298-0891.

Kawasaki 900: 1975, 5,000 miles, perfect condition, \$1,750. Call 857-1539.

Yorkshire Terrier: 6 week old male, AKC. Call 855-7239 after 6 pm, anytime weekends.

1974 Audi Fox: 2-door sedan, beige, auto trans, A/C, AM/FM, 8 track. \$4,450 or best offer. Call Doug at 678-4823 or 671-9769.

1975 Bass Boat: by Hurst, 70 hp Johnson, Trolling motor, power tilt & trim, gal. trailer. Call 293-8346 after 4 pm, anytime weekends.

Items: Baby play pen \$20, baby bed \$40, baby walker \$11, baby tyke bike \$5. Call Becky at 851-3811 anytime.

Carriage: 3-in-one carriage-stroller combination. Call Mary Ann at 859-2096.

Flash Unit: Honeywell "tilt-a-mite" to fit 35 mm camera. Includes many accessories. Call Kent at 299-3489.

1973 Chevelle Leguna: Bronze, vinyl top, PS/PB, AM/FM, A/C, 27,000 miles. \$2,200. Call 859-8210 after 5 pm.

Aras Guitar: \$100, call 855-4169.

TV: 1973 19 inch portable color by Westinghouse with stand. 859-5185.

eyes and ears of Walt Disney World

A newspaper for employees of Walt Disney World and related companies. All rights reserved. Reprint of material only upon written approval of the Disney University at Walt Disney World. Address correspondence to:

The Editor

EYES & EARS

Walt Disney World

P.O. Box 40

Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830

©Walt Disney Productions

Contributors:

Editor: Dent Thompson

Typescript: JoAnn Poland

Graphics: Judy Shumaker

Walt Disney World Photography Department

Walt Disney World Print Shop

Typescript: Angie Brown, Donna Walls,

Nel Chapman

Area Reporters:

Vern Conner - Fort Wilderness

Jim James - Lake Buena Vista

This document has been brought to you by
The Progress City Public Library Disneyana Collection
<https://archive.org/details/@progresscityusa>



A Project of Progress City, U.S.A.
<https://progresscityusa.com>

**Historians and Authors please cite “The Progress City Public Library Disneyana Collection”
when referencing this item. Thank you!**

To support the Progress City Public Library's efforts, please visit our Patreon:
<https://www.patreon.com/progresscityusa>